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Customer No. 30223

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of: Raj K. Mangla et al.

Serial No.: 10/616,733

Filed: July 10, 2003

For: VENTED CONTAINER WITH HANDLES

AND EMBOSSMENT

Confirmation No.: 9491

Group Art Unit: 1741

Examiner: N. Hayden

Atty. Docket No.: 47097-00958USPR

# DECLARATION OF JANICE L. LINDEMANN IN SUPPORT OF PETITION OF AN UNAVAILABLE INVENTOR

MS Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Commissioner:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date belog:

2-27-04

Date

Signature

I, Janice L. Lindemann, an employee of Pactiv Corporation, having personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein, hereby state and declare that:

- 1. I am Supervisor, Engineering Support Services at Pactiv Corporation ("Pactiv"). Among other responsibilities, I am responsible for coordinating intellectual property activities for Pactiv.
- 2. I have knowledge of the details set forth in this Declaration.
- 3. I submit this Declaration in support of the proof of the pertinent facts of the diligent but unsuccessful effort which was made to locate inventor J. Scott Dellinger to obtain an executed declaration for the above-captioned patent application.

- 4. Pactiv is the owner of U.S. Patent No. 6,257,401 B1 which Pactiv is seeking to reissue in the above-captioned patent application. The Assignment for U.S. Patent No. 6,257,401 B1 was recorded with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 009972, Frame 0507.
- 5. At the present time, one of the inventors, J. Scott Dellinger, cannot be located.
- 6. Mr. Dellinger left the employ of Pactiv on April 16, 1999. His address when he left Pactiv was 1118 Johnson Drive, Apt. 3433, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089.
- 7. He reportedly moved from the Chicago area in the April 1999 time frame to take care of his sick grandmother living in another state.
- 8. In 2000, I communicated with Mr. Dellinger on behalf of Pactiv at 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 to obtain his signature for an assignment in an unrelated matter. I was successful in reaching Mr. Dellinger at 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 at that time.
- 9. On October 20, 2003, I communicated with Mr. Dellinger's former supervisor at Pactiv, Mr. Thomas J. Hayes, to ask him to provide any contact information he had for Mr. Dellinger. A true and correct copy of the October 20, 2003 electronic mail to Mr. Hayes is attached as Ex. A. Mr. Hayes provided two addresses: (i) 504 Bethel Road, Apt. 1003, Morganton, NC 28655-4900 and (ii) 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 (which Mr. Hayes identified as Mr. Dellinger's mother's address). A true and correct copy of the October 20, 2003 electronic mail from Mr. Hayes is attached as Ex. B. Mr. Hayes also provided two telephone numbers for Mr. Dellinger: (i) (828) 437-1948 and (ii) (423) 487-3223. See Ex. B. Mr. Hayes also provided an email address for Mr. Dellinger of jsdellinger@yahoo.com. See id.
- 10. On October 20, 2003, I sent an electronic mail message to Mr. Dellinger at jsdellinger@yahoo.com advising him that his signature was needed for declaration papers related to the above-captioned patent application. A true and correct copy of the October 20, 2003

electronic mail message to Mr. Dellinger is attached as Ex. C. In my electronic mail message, I advised Mr. Dellinger that Pactiv had two addresses for him: (i) 504 Bethel Road, Apt. 1003, Morganton, NC 28655-4900 and (ii) 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 (which I indicated was believed to be his mother's address). See Ex. C. In my electronic mail message, I also advised Mr. Dellinger that Pactiv had two telephone numbers for him: (i) (828) 437-1948 and (ii) (423) 487-3223. See id. I asked Mr. Dellinger to advise me regarding which address Pactiv should use to communicate with him. See id. I never received a return written or oral response from Mr. Dellinger. I also did not receive a "bounceback" electronic mail message indicating that my October 20, 2003 electronic mail message was unable to be delivered to the jsdellinger@yahoo.com electronic mail account.

- 11. On October 31, 2003, I sent a letter with an accompanying declaration to be executed by Mr. Dellinger to 504 Bethel Road, Apt. 1003, Morganton, NC 28655-4900. A true and correct copy of the October 31, 2003 letter to Mr. Dellinger is attached as Ex. D. I used the U.S. Postal Service's certified mail, return receipt delivery service ("Certified Mail Service") to send the letter attached as Ex. D to Mr. Dellinger. A true and correct copy of the Certified Mail Service return receipt postcard for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5820 is attached as Ex. E. On December 16, 2003, the Certified Mail Service returned the package containing my October 31 letter to Pactiv as "unclaimed" as shown in attached Ex. F. A true and correct copy of the return Certified Mail Service envelope for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5820 is attached as Ex. F.
- 12. On October 31, 2003, I sent a duplicate letter with an accompanying declaration to be executed by Mr. Dellinger to his mother's last known address at 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727. A true and correct copy of the October 31, 2003 letter to Mr. Dellinger is attached as Ex. G. I used the U.S. Postal Service's Certified Mail Service to send the letter attached as Ex. G.

to Mr. Dellinger. A true and correct copy of the Certified Mail Service return receipt postcard for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5837 is attached as Ex. H. The Certified Mail Service postcard was returned showing delivery to Mr. J. Scott Dellinger, 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 on November 7, 2003 as shown in attached Ex. I. A true and correct copy of the Certified Mail Service return receipt postcard for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5837 is attached as Ex. I.

- 13. I tried calling Mr. Dellinger's Morganton, NC telephone number of (828) 437-1948 on October 20, 2003. I received a recorded message which indicated that the phone number was "disconnected or not in service."
- 14. I tried calling Mr. Dellinger's mother's Del Rio, TN home at telephone number (423) 487-3223 at different times of the day beginning on November 11, 2003. I made at least ten (10) calls to the (423) 487-3223 number between November 11, 2003 and December 15, 2003 and would let the telephone ring at least ten times each call but was unable to reach someone or obtain an answering machine. Finally, on December 16, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. (EST), for the first and only time, an individual answered the telephone when I called the (423) 487-3223 number. The woman who answered advised me that (i) the 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 address was a valid contact address for Mr. Dellinger; (ii) she seemed to recall that Mr. Dellinger had received an envelope from Pactiv; (iii) she thought Mr. Dellinger had returned the envelope; (iv) Mr. Dellinger was traveling and would not be home for awhile; and (v) she would discuss my call with Mr. Dellinger when he returned.
- 15. On January 22, 2004, I sent a letter dated January 21, 2004 with an accompanying declaration to be executed by Mr. Dellinger to the 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 address. A true and correct copy of the January 21, 2004 letter to Mr. Dellinger is attached as Ex. J. I used the U.S. Postal Service's Certified Mail Service to send the letter attached as Ex. J to

Mr. Dellinger. A true and correct copy of the Certified Mail Service return receipt postcard for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5813 is attached as Ex. K. The Certified Mail Service Track & Confirm shows that notice was left for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5813 on January 26 and January 30, 2004 as shown in attached Ex. L. A true and correct copy of the Certified Mail Service Track & Confirm for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5813 is attached as Ex. L. The Certified Mail Service Track & Confirm shows the letter as still "unclaimed" as of February 10, 2004. See Ex. L. On February 19, 2004, the Certified Mail Service returned the package containing my January 21 letter to Pactiv as "unclaimed" as shown in attached Ex. M. See also Ex. L. A true and correct copy of the return Certified Mail Service envelope for item no. 7000 0600 0027 6324 5813 is attached as Ex. M.

- 16. On January 22, 2004, I sent a duplicate of the January 21, 2004 letter attached as Ex. J with an accompanying declaration to Mr. Dellinger to the 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 address via overnight service. *See* Ex. J. I used DHL Service to send the letter attached as Ex. J to Mr. Dellinger. A true and correct copy of the DHL Tracking Results for item no. 46640307770 is attached as Ex. N. The DHL Signature Proof of Delivery shows that the letter was delivered to the residence door of Mr. J. Scott Dellinger, 1098 Blue Mill, Del Rio, TN 37727 on January 26, 2004 as shown in attached Ex. O. A true and correct copy of the DHL Signature Proof of Delivery for item no. 46640307770 is attached as Ex. O.
- 17. I have not received any written or oral return communications from Mr. Dellinger. I continue to try reaching Mr. Dellinger by telephone periodically at the (423) 487-3223 number but have been unsuccessful in reestablishing contact with anyone at this number.

18. I am not aware of any other address at which to contact Mr. Dellinger. Additionally, I am

not aware of any other telephone number at which to contact Mr. Dellinger. Moreover, I am not

aware of any electronic mail address at which to contact Mr. Dellinger.

19. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that

all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these

statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are

punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of title 18 of the United States

Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any

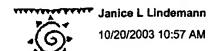
patent issued thereon.

Date: February 23, 2004

Janice L. Lindemann

and y, Lines was

**Pactiv Corporation** 



To: Tom Hayes/VER/Pactiv@Pactiv

cc:

Subject: Heads Up: Have A Declaration that Needs to Be Signed by Scott

Dellinger

Tom,

The reissue application for 47097-00958USPR: "Vented Container with Handles and Embossment" requires the declaration to be signed by all of the inventors, which include: Raj Mangla, Scott Dellinger, Mark Erickson, Suzanne (Maslach) Penfold, Mark Spencer, and you within the next few weeks.

I will get Raj, Mark Erickson, and Suzanne's signatures and have this sent to you to gather the remaining signatures. (Suzanne has both a name change and an address change.)

Since it took awhile the last time to get Scott's address, I'm letting you know as soon as I got the form. The form lists Scott's address as 1118 Johnson Drive, Apt 3433, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. Please advise of his correct current address so we can get his info updated on the form.



### Tom Hayes

10/20/2003 01:49 PM

To: Janice L Lindemann/CAN/Pactiv@Pactiv

CC:

Subject: Re: Heads Up: Have A Declaration that Needs to Be Signed by Scott

Dellinger 🖺

Janice it's been a long time since I've talked to Scott. The latest addresses that I have are as follows:

504 Bethel Rd. Apt 1003 Morganton, NC 28655-4900

828-437-1948 jsdellinger@yahoo.com

#### **Alternate Contacts:**

Mother's address: 1098 Blue Mill Rd. Del Rio TN. 37727 423-487-3223

This is all I have. If you need any thing else please let me know. Have a good day.

Janice L Lindemann



Janice L Lindemann

10/20/03 09:57 AM

To: Tom Hayes/VER/Pactiv@Pactiv

cc:

Subject: Heads Up: Have A Declaration that Needs to Be Signed by Scott

Dellinger

Tom,

The reissue application for 47097-00958USPR: "Vented Container with Handles and Embossment" requires the declaration to be signed by all of the inventors, which include: Raj Mangla, Scott Dellinger, Mark Erickson, Suzanne (Maslach) Penfold, Mark Spencer, and you within the next few weeks.

I will get Raj, Mark Erickson, and Suzanne's signatures and have this sent to you to gather the remaining signatures. (Suzanne has both a name change and an address change.)

Since it took awhile the last time to get Scott's address, I'm letting you know as soon as I got the form. The form lists Scott's address as 1118 Johnson Drive, Apt 3433, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. Please advise of his correct current address so we can get his info updated on the form.

Janice L Lindemann

To: jsdellinger@yahoo.com

10/20/2003 02:36 PM

Subject: Pactiv Patent Declaration Form - Needs Updated Address Info

Hi Scott,

We have a reissue application for one of the patents you were a co-inventor on; we need you to sign the inventor's declaration form with your correct address info on it. Tom Hayes had the following info the last time we needed your signature:

504 Bethel Rd. Apt 1003 Morganton, NC 28655-4900 828-437-1948

He also had:

**Alternate Contacts:** 

Mother's address: 1098 Blue Mill Rd. Del Rio TN. 37727 423-487-3223

To which address can we send the form for your signature? (It does not need to be notarized.)



Telephone: 585 393-5158 585 393-5037 Facsimile:

jindemann@pactiv.com E-Mail:

Law Department / Product Stewardship Office **Technology Center** 2651 Brickyard Road Canandaigua, New York 14424-7990

October 31, 2003

Mr. J. Scott Dellinger 504 Bethel Road Apt. 1003 Morganton, NC 28655-4900

RE:

Reissue Application Declaration

Dear Scott:

Attached is the "Reissue Application Declaration by the Inventor" form for a reissue of US patent 6,257,401 entitled "Vented Container with Handles and Embossment." Please sign/date as indicated and confirm your updated address. I am also sending this to your parents house.

Please feel free to call me with any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Janice Lindemann Supervisor, Engineering Support Services

**Enclosures** 

MAR 0 5 2004 Trades the

Approved for use through 01/31/2004. OMB 0651-0033
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Inder the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE INVENTOR

Docket Number (Optional) 47097-00958USPR

As a below named inventor. I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is described and claimed in patent number 6,257,401 B1, granted July 10, 2001, and for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled Vented Container with Handles and Embossment,

the specification of which

is attached hereto.

was filed on July 10, 2003, as reissue application number 10/616,733 and was amended on (if applicable)

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid, for the reasons described below. (Check all boxes that apply.)

	by reason of a defective specification or drawing.
$\boxtimes$	by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than he had the right to claim in the patent
	by reason of other errors.

At least one error upon which reissue is based is described below. If the reissue is a broadening reissue, such must be stated with an explanation as to the nature of the broadening:

Claim 7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,257,401 B1 claims a thermoplastic container comprising, *inter alia*, "a pair of opposing side walls and a pair of opposing end walls, said side walls and said end walls extending upward from said bottom, said end walls extending between said side walls." The specification indicates that the container can have "any desired shape, such as round, oval, square, etc., but is preferably rectangular." Column 4, lines 31-38. Claim 7 is considered deficient in that it unnecessarily limits the shape of the container to the preferred embodiment. This aspect of the claims has been broadened by the new and amended claims.

## [Page 1 of 3]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.5 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Reissue, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

# REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE INVENTOR

## **Docket Number (Optional)**

47097-00958USPR

All errors corrected in this reissue application arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

ROBERT L. ABDON, Reg. No. 50,996 TIMOTHY G. ACKERMANN, Reg. No. 44,493 BENJAMIN J. BAI, Reg. No. 43,481 JOSEPH M. BEAUCHAMP, Reg. No. 46544 NORMA BENNETT, Reg. No. 51,229 MICHAEL D. BERGER JR., Reg. No. 52,616 MARY JO BOLDINGH, Reg. No. 34,713 MARGARET A. BOULWARE, Reg. No. 28,708 DANIEL J. BURNHAM, Reg. No. 39,618 SORINEL CIMPOES, Reg. No. 48,311 JASON W. COOK, Reg. No. 48,456 ANDREW G. DINOVO, Reg. No. 40,115 STUART D. DWORK, Reg. No. 31,103 JANET M. GARETTO, Reg. No. 42,568 MARK J. GATSCHET, Reg. No. 42,569 JOHN C. GATZ, Reg. No. 41,774 RUSSELL J. GENET, Reg. No. 42,571 ANIL V. GOLLAHALLI, Reg. No. 48,996 LEKHA GOPALAKRISHNAN, Reg. No. 46,733 STEVEN R. GREENFIELD, Reg. No. 38,166 J. PAT HEPTIG, Reg. No. 40,643 JOHN E. HYATT, Reg. No. 43,421 SHARON A. ISRAEL, Reg. No. 41,867

PAUL R. KITCH, Reg. No. 38,206 TIMOTHY M. KOWALSKI, Reg. No. 44,192 HSIN-WEI LUANG, Reg. No. 44,213 MICHAEL MADDOX, Reg. No. 47,764 ROGER L. MAXWELL, Reg. No. 31,855 LISA H. MEYERHOFF, Reg. No. 36,869 ASHLEY N. MOORE, Reg. No. 51,667 STANLEY R. MOORE, Reg. No. 26,958 DANIEL G. NGUYEN, Reg. No. 42,933 CONSTANCE L. PIELECH, Reg. No. 46,991 GREGORY PORTER, Reg. No. 40,131 ROSS T. ROBINSON, Reg. No. 47,031 STEPHEN G. RUDISILL,, Reg. No. 20,087 JERRY R. SELINGER, Reg. No. 26,582 ZACHARY J. SMOLINSKI, Reg. No. 47,100 JUSTIN SWINDELLS, Reg. No. 48,733 STEVE Z. SZCZEPANSKI, Reg. No. 27,957 ANDRE M. SZUWALSKI, Reg. No. 35,701 ALAN R. THIELE, Reg. No. 30,694 CYNTHIA K. THOMPSON, Reg. No. 48,655 TAMSEN VALOIR, Reg. No. 41,417 BRIAN D. WALKER, Reg. No. 37,751 HAROLD N. WELLS. Reg. No. 26,044

Correspondence Address: Direct all communications about the application to:

30223

OR

(Type Customer Number here)

(Place Customer Number Bar Code Label here)

John C. Gatz

Address

Jenkens & Gilchrist

225 West Washington Street, Suite 2600

City

Chicago

State

Illinois

*Zip* 60

60606-3418

Country

USA

Telephone

(312) 425-3900

Fax

(312) 425-3909

[Page 2 of 3]

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PTO/SB/51 (02-01) Approved for use through 01/31/2004. OMB 0651-0033 Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

# REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE INVENTOR **Docket Number (Optional)** 47097-00958USPR I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed. Full name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name): Raj K. Mangla Inventor's signature Date 10/20/07 Residence: 101 Caversham Woods, Pittsford, New York 14534 Mailing Address: same as Residence Citizenship: U.S.A. Full name of second joint inventor (given name, family name): J. Scott Dellinger Inventor's signature Residence: 1118 Johnson Dr. Apt. 3433, Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089 Citizenship: U.S.A. Mailing Address: same as Residence Full name of third joint inventor (given name, family name): Mark A. Erickson Inventor's signature /// Co X Date 1012003 1000 Residence: 91-Stable Way, Lindonhurst, Illinois 60048 6 WILLIUGED RISE, FAIRFORT, NY 19450 Citizenship: U.S.A. Mailing Address: same as Residence Full name of fourth joint inventor (given name, family name): Thomas J. Hayes Inventor's signature Date Residence: 28223 W. Ridge Road, McHenry, Illinois 60050 60051 Citizenship: U.S.A. Mailing Address: same as Residence Full name of fifth joint inventor (given name, family name): Suzanne R. Maslach Date Inventor's signature Residence: 50 Sunset Blvd., Pittsford, New York 14534 Mailing Address: same as Residence Citizenship: U.S.A. Full name of sixth joint inventor (given name, family name): Mark E. Spencer Date Inventor's signature Residence: 269 S. Ridge Drive, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 Mailing Address: same as Residence Citizenship: U.S.A. Additional joint inventors are named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.

[Page 3 of 3]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.5 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Reissue, Washington, DC 20231.

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REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE I	Docket Number (Optional)		
		47097-00958USPR	
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.			
Full name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name): Raj K. Mangla			
Inventor's signature	Date		
Residence: 101 Caversham Woods, Pittsford, New			
Mailing Address: same as Residence Citizenship: U.S.A			
Full name of second joint inventor (given name, family name): J. Scott Dellinger			
Inventor's signature	Date		
Residence: 1118 Johnson Dr. Apt. 3433, Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089			
Mailing Address: same as Residence	Citizenship: U.S.A.		
Full name of third joint inventor (given name, family n	name): Mark A. Erick	son	
Inventor's signature	Date		
Residence: 91 Stable Way, Lindenhurst, Illinois 60046			
Mailing Address: same as Residence	Citizenship: U.S.A.		
Full name of fourth joint inventor (given name, family name): Thomas J. Hayes			
Inventor's signature Date 11/25/2003			
Residence: 28223 W. Ridge Road, McHenry, Illinois 60050 Coo.5 (			
Mailing Address: same as Residence	Citizenship: U.S.A.		
Full name of fifth joint inventor (given name, family name): Suzanne R. Maslach			
Inventor's signature Signature RMAStect Date 1/6/03			
Residence: 50 Sunset Blvd, Pittsford, New York 14534 7 Maple St. Pittsford NY			
Mailing Address: same as Residence	Citizenship: U.S.A.	<sup>)</sup> 1453 <del>1</del>	
Full name of sixth joint inventor (given name, family name): Mark E. Spencer			
Inventor's signature /ul Date /2/3/63			
Residence: 269 S. Ridge Drive, Gurnee, Illinois 60031			
Mailing Address: same as Residence	Citizenship: U.S.A.		
☐ Additional joint inventors are named on separate	ly numbered sheets a	ittached hereto.	

[Page 3 of 3]

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Serial No.: 10/616,733

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For: VENTED CONTAINER WITH HANDLES

AND EMBOSSMENT

Confirmation No. 9491

Group Art Unit: 1741

Examiner: N. Hayden

Atty. Docket No.: 47097-00958USPR

# DECLARATION OF THOMAS J. HAYES IN SUPPORT OF PETITION OF AN UNAVAILABLE INVENTOR

MS Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Commissioner:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to MS Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date

2-27-04

Date

Signature

I, Thomas J. Hayes, an employee of Pactiv Corporation, having personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein, hereby state and declare that:

- I am Supervisor Product Design and Prototyping, Engineering Support Services at Pactiv Corporation.
- 2. I have knowledge of the details set forth in this Declaration.
- 3. I submit this Declaration in support of the proof of the pertinent facts of the diligent but unsuccessful effort which was made to locate inventor J. Scott Dellinger to obtain an executed declaration for the above-captioned patent application.

- 4. Pactiv Corporation ("Pactiv") is the owner of U.S. Patent No. 6,257,401 B1 which Pactiv is seeking to reissue in the above-captioned patent application. The Assignment for U.S. Patent No. 6,257,401 B1 was recorded with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 009972, Frame 0507.
- 5. I was Mr. Dellinger's supervisor when he was employed by Pactiv.
- 6. Mr. Dellinger left the employ of Pactiv on April 16, 1999. His address when he left Pactiv was 1118 Johnson Drive, Apt. 3433, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. He reportedly moved from the Chicago area in the April 1999 time frame to take care of his sick grandmother living in another state.
- 7. On October 20, 2003, Pactiv's Supervisor of Engineering Support Services, Ms. Janice Lindemann, asked me for Mr. Dellinger's last known contact information. A true and correct copy of the October 20, 2003 electronic mail from Ms. Lindemann is attached as Exhibit A. That day, I provided two addresses for Mr. Dellinger: (i) 504 Bethel Road, Apt. 1003, Morganton, NC 28655-4900 and (ii) 1098 Blue Mill Road, Del Rio, TN 37727 (which I understood to be Mr. Dellinger's mother's address). A true and correct copy of the October 20, 2003 electronic mail to Ms. Lindemann is attached as Exhibit B. I also provided two telephone numbers for Mr. Dellinger: (i) (828) 437-1948 and (ii) (423) 487-3223. See Exhibit B. I further provided an electronic mail address for Mr. Dellinger of jsdellinger@yahoo.com. See id.
- 8. I am not aware of any other address at which to contact Mr. Dellinger. Additionally, I am not aware of any other telephone number at which to contact Mr. Dellinger. Furthermore, I am not aware of any electronic mail address at which to contact Mr. Dellinger.
- 9. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these

Serial No. 10/616,733

statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are

punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of title 18 of the United States

Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any

patent issued thereon.

Date: February 23, 2004

Thomas J. Hayes

**Pactiv Corporation**